

# Testerina Primitive Baptist Church

## Centennial Celebration

JULY 21-25

1871

1971



*"Testerina Meets The Christian Challenge Through A Century Of Service"*  
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STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR REUBIN O'D. ASKEW



Greetings:

As Governor of the State of Florida, I extend congratulations to Testerina Primitive Baptist Church on the occasion of its First Centennial.

The role of churches in our nation is a vital one in providing spiritual and moral guidance and in encouraging service to our fellow man. It is fitting, therefore, that the theme of your observance is "Testerina Meets the Christian Challenge Through a Century of Service."

Best wishes on this memorable occasion.

Sincerely,

Reuben Askew  
Governor

Present by

Patricia Colson Henderson  
4/97

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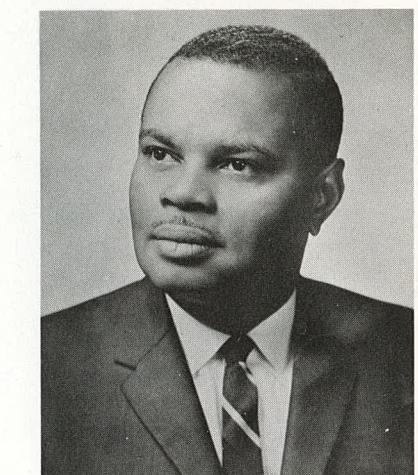
Tallahassee, Florida

GREETINGS....

I am grateful for the opportunity to bring greetings from Florida A and M University and it is even a greater pleasure for me to be honored with the invitation to meet members and friends of Testerina Primitive Baptist Church.

As I read the topic I could not help but see a parallel between Testerina and FAMU. "Testerina Meets the Christian Challenge Through a Century of Service," rings a familiar note and I can claim closer identification with the topic because we feel that FAMU has justified its continued existence through its history of service, for nearly a century. Perhaps you can see why this experience with Testerina will always have special meaning for me.

I am certain that I will cherish the memory of my experience with you. Thus, I extend my sincere wishes and ask the blessings of God for your continued service in the next century.



Yours in Christ,

B. L. Perry

FLORIDA STATE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CONVENTION, INCORPORATED

Fellow Servants of God:



As you, pastor, officers, and members of Testerina Primitive Baptist Church, pause to observe your 100th Church Anniversary, may the blessings of God abide with you continuously, and may the spirit of Christ continue to guide you through the next century. We salute you highly for having kept pace with the times and held up the bloodstain banner for Christ in Tallahassee for 100 years.

As you move into the next century, may the spirit of humility, the faith of eternity, the joy of salvation, the honesty of the ages, and the divine guidance of Christ lead you on and on.

Moses Genreal Miles  
President  
STATE LIBRARY OF FLORIDA

**MY CHURCH HELPS ME:**

*To keep a sky in my life and to look up,  
To keep my hand in God's and hold on to him,  
To see the eternal values above the material,  
To lift life above self to service for Christ,  
To see the good in others and praise it,  
To keep sweet and to keep busy for him,  
To have a seeing eye, a feeling heart, a helping hand,  
To test the motive of life and choose the best,  
To do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly.*

*The Watchman — Examiner*



**The Pastor Speaks. . . .**

I take warm pleasure in extending greetings in behalf of the Testerina Primitive Baptist Church on our 100th ANNIVERSARY celebration. The theme for this occasion — "Testerina Meets the Christian Challenge Through a Century of Service" — is in keeping with our desires to re-dedicate ourselves to faithfully serving our heavenly father. I ask that we who now live may build the spiritual fabric of the nation in truth, beauty, and goodness, and that as we draw near to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we may draw nearer to one another in perfect brotherhood. The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming in.

**Reverend G. W. Hill,  
Pastor**

**Pastor's Wife**



**Mrs. Gussie Beatrice Hill**



**MEMBERS OF CHURCH**

## Historical Sketch

Testerina Primitive Baptist Church was first organized in a brush hobble about one-half mile east of its present location just a few years after the emancipation of the - Slaves. In 1871 a small group of Christains chose the late Elder Moses Vaughn as their Pastor and Organizer of Testeraina Primitive Baptist Church. Little is known of him other than the fact that he was an Ex-Slave and a native of Leon County. He served from 1871 until his death in 1890. Out of his generation came many fine people. The oldest member now living in the Vaughn family is a grandson; Deacon Johnny Vaughn. The following Deacons were selected and ordained - under Elder Moses Vaughn: Deacons Burden Clack, Henry Wilken, and Alford Austin. Along with this Elder and Deacons a few unconverted persons served faithfully as Trustees, the late Mr. Caleb Hawkins, Mr. John Davis, and Mr. Malachi Barnes, Sr. All of these people were later converted and became members of the church. In 1884, the members came unto possession of this present spot of land, and built a wooden building.

After the death of Elder Vaughn, the church later elected the late Elder Henry Johnson of Leon County, in 1890. He - baptized and received more members in the church than any - minister of his time. During his pastorate, the church was enlarged and several additions were made. Rev. Johnson served until his death in 1932.

From 1933-1948, the Elder Clifford T. Hillyard of Wakulla County served as Pastor. In 1942, the building was completely destroyed by fire, and a new building was constructed in 1943. Under his Pastorate the first usher board was organized.

During the period 1949-1957, Rev. G. W. Hill served as Pastor at which time the first choir was organized. From this - group, two choirs were formed - a Junior and Senior. Many - additions were made to the building including the choir stand and a choir room. Under this same Pastorate, the church obtained a clear title of deeds, and a corner-stone was laid.

Rev. Culbert W. Williams of Wakulla County succeeded Rev. Hill, serving from 1957-1963. Under his Pastorate our present building, a cafeteria was constructed, and a corner - stone was laid.

In may of 1961, Rev. G. W. Hill was again elected and now serves as our pastor.

## HISTORY CONT'D.

Progress has continued tremendously in spirit, membership, auxillaries, and facilities. A male choir and additional mixed choirs have been organized; modernized restrooms have been constructed, the Pastor's study and expanded choir rooms, remodeled cafeteria, new furniture and installation of new pews and carpeting.

Many accomplishments have been made and we look forward to the expansion of the building structure, a central air conditioning system, along with many other long-range goals.

We must see to it that this growth continues for those who succeed us. Of course, our greatest reward is to receive the glory of eternal life with our Father in Heaven.



NEVER SAY FAIL

*Keep pushing-'tis wiser than sitting aside  
And dreaming and sighing and waiting the tide.  
In life's earnest battle they only prevail  
Who daily march onward, and never say fail.*

*With an eye ever open, a tongue that's not dumb,  
And a heart that will never to sorrow succumb,  
You'll battle—and conquer, though thousands assail;  
How strong and how mighty, who never say fail.*

*In Life's rosy morning, in manhood's firm pride,  
Let this be the motto your footsteps to guide;  
In storm and in sunshine, whatever assail,  
We'll onward and conquer, and never say fail.*

## EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday Evening, July 21-----City-wide Prayer Service

"ALSO"  
"AN EYE WITNESS REPORT"

Thursday Evening, July 22-----Sermon - Rev. Ernest Ferrell,  
Galilee P. B. Church, Tallahassee, Fla.

Friday Evening, July 23-----Sermon - Rev. R. N. Gooden,  
St. Mary P. B. Church, Tallahassee, Fla.

Saturday Evening, July 24-----Benefit Banquet - Carriage  
House, Tallahassee Northwood Mall

Sunday Morning, July 25-----Centennial Message - Rev. T. W.  
Samuels, Eustis, Florida

Sunday Evening, July 25-----"GOSPEL FESTIVAL"

## CENTENNIAL COMMITTEES

Steering Committee-----Mr. James Ferrell, Chairman,  
Mrs. Annie Peacock, Co-Chairman

History Committee-----Miss Olivia Meeks, Chairman,  
Mrs. Idella Wilson, Co-Chairman

Assessments Committee-----Mr. Lucian Wilson, Chairman,  
Mr. Daniel Leon, Co-Chairman

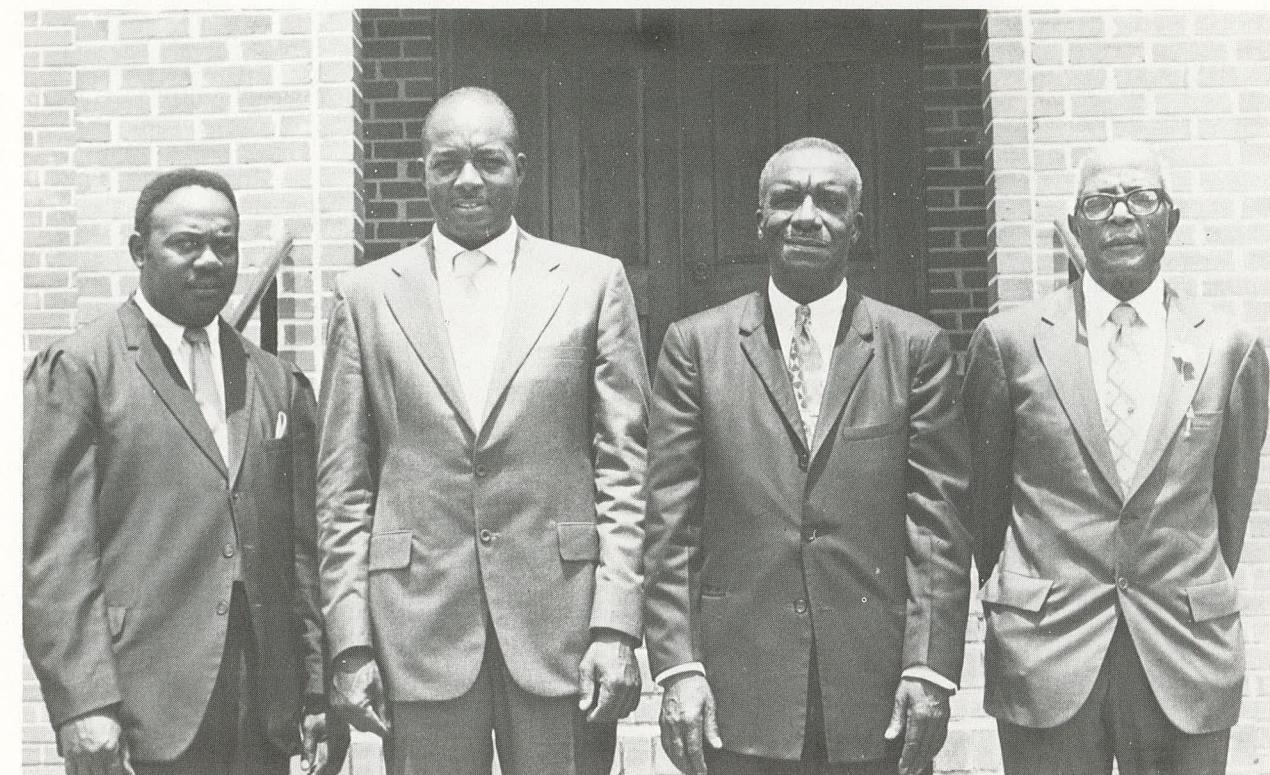
Banquet Committee-----Mrs. Emily King, Chairman,  
Mrs. Irene Meeks, Co-Chairman

Advertisement Committee-----Mr. Ernest Proctor, Chairman,  
Mrs. Savannah Stanley, Mrs. Betty  
Roberts, Miss Shirley Ferrell, Co-  
Chairmen

Refreshment Committee-----Mrs. Gussie B. Hill, Chairman,  
Mrs. Rebecca Smith, Co-Chairman

Youth Department-----Miss Sherri Allen, Chairman,  
Mr. Leroy Ferrell, Co-Chairman

## BOARD OF DEACONS



Deacon Luke Thompson, Chairman

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Brother Howard Wilson, Chairman

WEDNESDAY EVENING

July 21, 1971 - 7:30 P.M.

CITY-WIDE PRAYER SERVICE

Miss Patricia Cozart-----Presiding

PROGRAM

Processional---(BEFORE THIS TIME ANOTHER YEAR)---Visiting  
Churches

Welcome and Occasion-----Mo. G. B. Hill

Scripture-----Rev. G. W. Hill

Hymn-----Dea. Clarence Jefferson

Prayer-----Dea. Lucian Wilson

Hymn-----Dea. Roosevelt Bentley

Prayer-----Dea. Alex Brimm

Hymn-----Dea. Henry White

Prayer-----Dea. Isaac Yant

Prayer-----Dea. William Lawrence

Song-----Bro. Lee Rufus Nicholson

-TESTERINA'S LEGEND-

Eye Witness Account-----Rev. James Davis, Dea. Frazier  
Arnold, Mo. Lee Etta Meeks

Response-----Miss Patricia Cozart

Offering-----Dea. David Kelly, Dea. James  
Burgess, Dea. John Tucker

Remarks & Announcements-----Rev. G. W. Hill

BENEDICTION-----

BOARD OF MOTHERS



Mother Idella Wilson, Chairman

BOARD OF USHERS



Sister Angeletta M. Ferrell, President

THURSDAY EVENING

July 22, 1971 - 7:30 P.M.

CENTENNIAL SERVICE

Rev. Leroy Thompson-----Presiding

PROGRAM

DEVOTION

Hymn-----Mr. Leroy Burgess

Prayer-----Dea. Alex German, Jr.

Song-----Mr. Daniel Leon, Jr.

Selection-----St. Peter No. 2 Choir

Welcome & Occasion-----Mrs. Emma Bruce

Scripture-----Rev. Dan Gay

Introduction of Speaker-----Rev. Leroy Thompson

Selection-----St. Peter No. 2 Choir

Sermon-----Rev. Ernest Ferrell

Selection-----St. Peter No. 2 Choir

Invitational Hymn-----Rev. James Austin

Response-----Rev. C. C. Cunningham

Offering-----Dea. T. H. Washington,  
Dea. Isaac Young, Mr.  
Sip Collins

Acknowledgements & Announcements-----Rev. G. W. Hill

Benediction-----Rev. Ernest Ferrell

CHOIR NUMBER ONE



Brother Elkin Austin, President

CHOIR NUMBER TWO



Brother James Ferrell, President

FRIDAY EVENING  
July 23, 1971 - 7:30 P.M.

CENTENNIAL SERVICE

Rev. E. L. Daniels-----Presiding

PROGRAM

DEVOTION

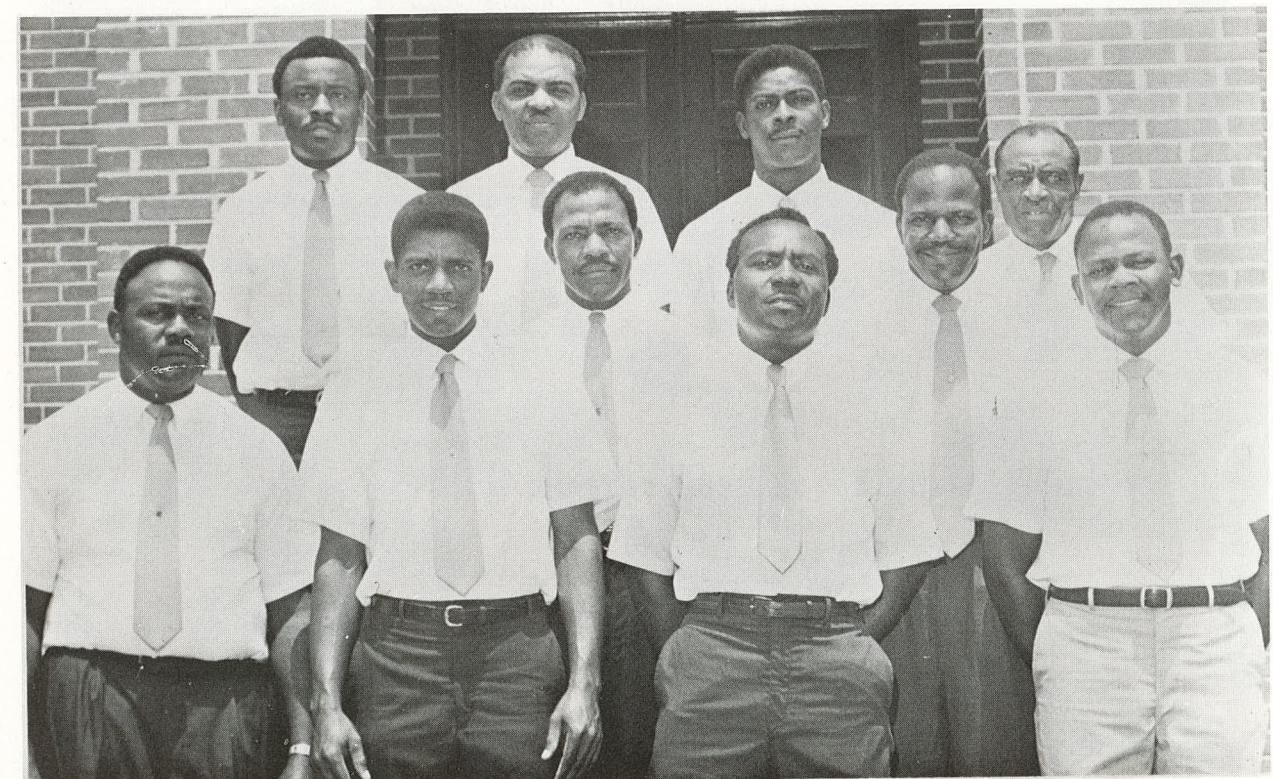
Hymn-----Dea. Willie Hillard  
Prayer-----Dea. Joe N. Sanders  
Song-----Mrs. Catherine McGee  
Selection-----Jacob Chapel No. 2 Choir  
Welcome & Occasion-----Mrs. Betty Roberts  
Scripture-----Rev. C. Bennett  
Introduction of Speaker-----Rev. E. L. Daniels  
Selection-----Jacob Chapel No. 2 Choir  
Sermon-----Rev. R. N. Gooden  
Selection-----Jacob Chapel No. 2 Choir  
Invitational Hymn-----Rev. R. Matthews  
Response-----Rev. E. L. Daniels  
Offering-----Rev. R. C. Snelling, Rev. H. Griffin, Rev. R. S. DuPont  
Acknowledgements & Announcements--Rev. P. Hannah  
Benediction-----Rev. R. N. Gooden

PASTOR'S AID CLUB



Sister Evetta M. Cromer, President

MALE CHOIR



Brother Charlie Austin, President

SATURDAY EVENING  
July 24, 1971 - 8:00 P.M.

BENEFIT BANQUET

Mrs. Hattie Joyce Sager-----Presiding

PROGRAM

Musical Prelude-----Mr. Jimmy Coleman

Lord's Prayer-----Mrs. Brendolyn Owens

Welcome & Occasion-----Mrs. Alice Peacock

Solo-----Mrs. Betty Sanders

Introduction of Speaker-----Mrs. H. J. Sager

Speaker-----Dr. Benjamin L. Perry,  
President, Florida A & M  
University

Acknowledgement of Guests-----Mr. Herman W. Landers

Remarks-----Mr. James Ford, City  
Commissioner

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DINNER WILL BE SERVED PROMPTLY AT 8:15 P. M.

CHOIR NUMBER THREE



Sister Victoria Burgess, President

CHURCH SCHOOL



Brother Leroy L. Ferrell, Superintendent

## SUNDAY MORNING

July 25, 1971 - 11:00 A.M.

## CENTENNIAL MESSAGE

Rev. Byron Long-----Presiding

## PROGRAM

## DEVOTION

Hymn-----Dea. James Lofton  
Prayer-----Dea. Willie Hogan  
Selection-----Providence Jr. Choir,  
Thomasville, Georgia  
Welcome & Occasion-----Mrs. Doris Collins  
Scripture-----Rev. Byron Long  
Introduction of Speaker-----Rev. G. W. Hill  
Selection-----Providence Jr. Choir  
Sermon-----Rev. T. W. Samuels,  
Superintendent, Florida State  
Primitive Baptist Church School  
Selection-----Providence Jr. Choir  
Response-----Rev. Byron Long  
Offering-----Mr. Alfred Taylor,  
Dea. Johnnie Vaughn, Jr.,  
Mr. W. O. Mack, Mr. Solomon  
Dennis  
Acknowledgements & Announcements-----Mo. Lee Etta Meeks  
Benediction-----Rev. T. W. Samuels

\* \* \* \* \*

## REFRESHMENTS IN CHURCH CAFETERIA

## PATRONS

Mrs. L. Graham  
 Mr. Clyde L. Young  
 Mr. D. W. Wynn  
 Mr. & Mrs. L. E. Parkey  
 Dr. & Mrs. Rupert G. Seals  
 Mr. Nicholas E. Gayman  
 Mr. Herbert Hall  
 Mr. Archie Weatherspoon  
 Dr. L. G. Rackley  
 Mrs. Ruth Abram  
 Mrs. Carolyn Farmer  
 Mrs. Thelma Thompson  
 Gibbs French Shoppe  
 Mrs. Rosa Lee Gardner  
 Mrs. Lillian Ardley  
 State Office Supply Co.  
 Huggins Business Machines  
 Miss Bettye Garrett  
 Mr. R. G. Coleman  
 Mr. Irving Mills  
 Mrs. Rebecca Steele  
 Mrs. Henrietta Reddings  
 Mrs. Mary Smith  
 Rev. J. L. Nealey  
 Florida Savings & Loan Ass.  
 Roberta Florist  
 Turners Dept. Store  
 Stafford Jewlery  
 John Camechis  
 Whaley's Office Supply Co.  
 W. W. Putnam Co.  
 Twine Clearners  
 Mr. & Mrs. Francis Head  
 Dea. Johnny Vaughn Jr. & Family  
 Bro. Nazareth Austin  
 Bro. Clinton Sims  
 L. R. Anderson, M.D.

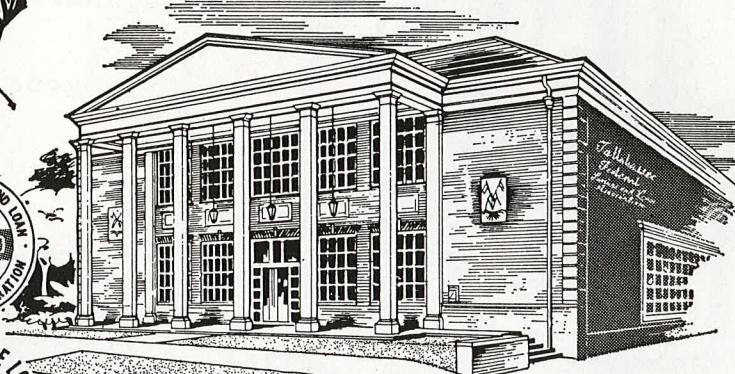
Mrs. Glorida Byrd  
 Mr. Robert Carroll  
 Dr. T. A. Jackson  
 Mr. T. M. Rose  
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hadley  
 Mr. Leroy Lewis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Copeland  
 Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Hills  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Robinson  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Sanders  
 Mr. William Thomas  
 Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Bens  
 Mr. R. Bennett  
 Mr. T. C. Foster  
 Mrs. Daisy T. Smith  
 Mrs. Ruth Braoke  
 Mrs. Florene Lowe  
 Mrs. Mattie Dunlap  
 Mrs. A. M. Reid  
 Mrs. Viola Ponrell  
 Mrs. Elevlyn Lyons  
 Dea. Aaron Gaines  
 Industrial Bank  
 Mrs. Janice Muse Grey  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Barrett  
 Dr. & Mrs. B. L. Perry, Jr.  
 Dr. & Mrs. L. N. Wilson  
 Mrs. Ethel Robinson  
 Mrs. Willie Lee McGhee  
 Mrs. Willie J. Haynes  
 Mrs. Susie Mae Mills  
 Mrs. Ruby Lee Jefferson  
 Rev. David Ash  
 Mrs. Norma F. Campbell  
 Mr. Ramoth Andrews  
 Mr. Alvin Robinson  
 Mo. M. Thompson

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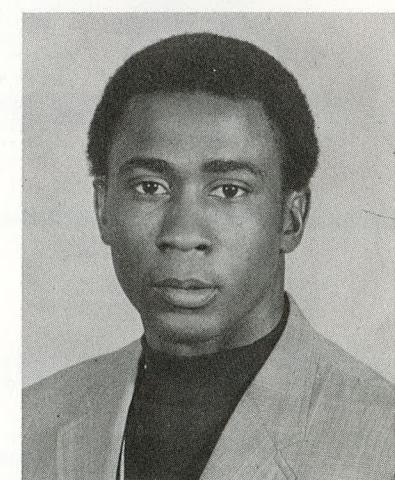
Pastor  
Rev. Ernest Ferrell

Board of Deacons  
Chairman  
Deacon G. Proctor

Deacon W. Washington  
Deacon D. Weaver  
Deacon J. Colson  
Deacon Wright

Trustees  
Deacon G. Proctor  
Deacon W. Washington  
Brother J. Colson, Jr.

Board of Mothers  
Chairman  
Mother Ruth Proctor  
Mother M. Lewis  
Mother E. Weaver  
Mother L. Colson  
Mother L. Footman



WORSHIP HOURS

1st & 3rd SUNDAYS

CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:45-11:00 AM

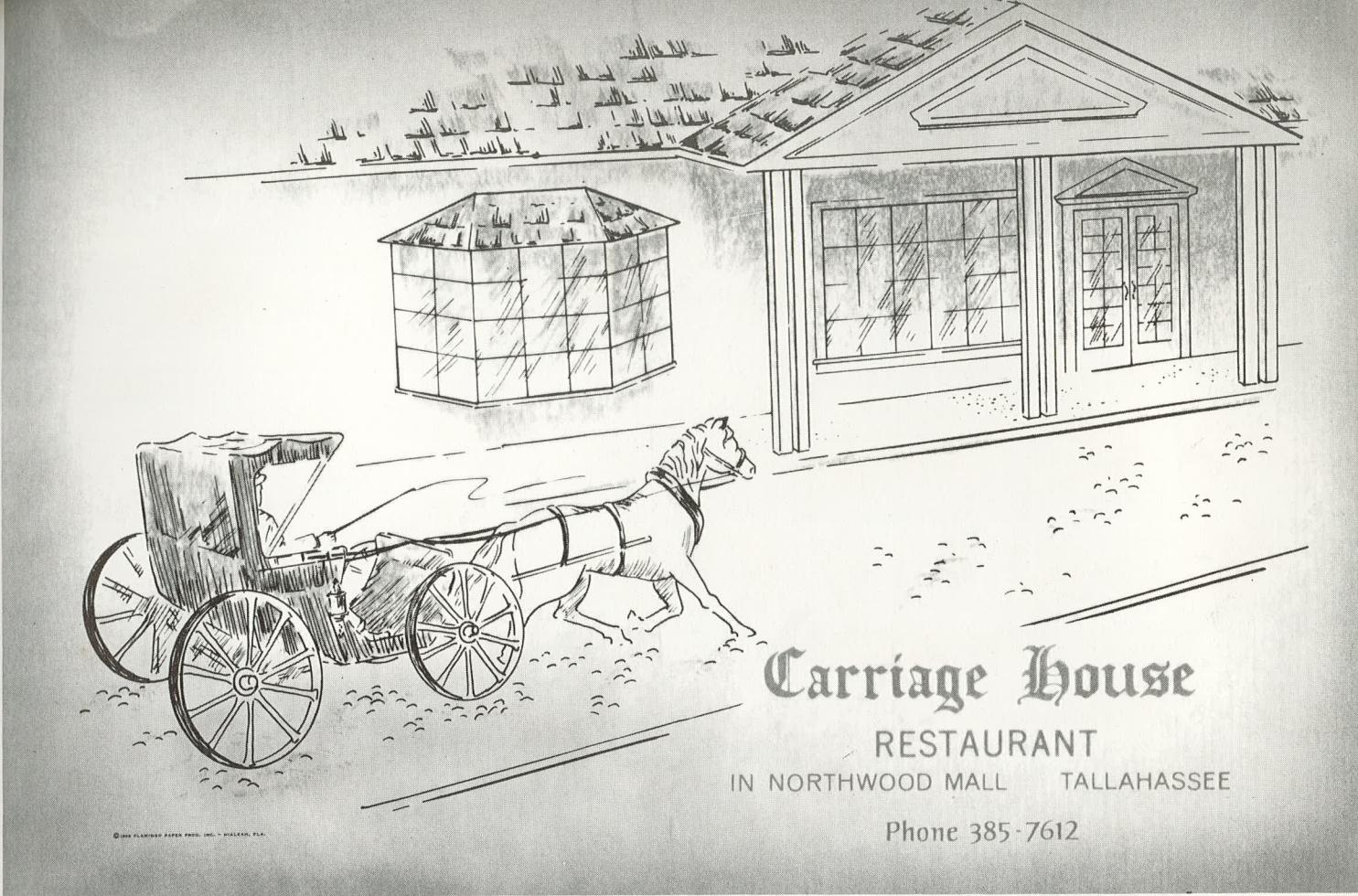
MORNING WORSHIP - 11:30 AM

NIGHT WORSHIP - 6:00 PM



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